

Claims Pending and Amended after Fifth Office Action

1. (cancelled)
2. (cancelled)
3. (cancelled)
4. (cancelled)

1 5.(presently amended) A procedure for opening a coronary artery
2 having a nominal opening size adjacent a target site ~~having at~~
3 ~~least a partial occlusion thereof~~, comprising the steps of:

4 a. determining an artery structure nominal opening size;
5 b. providing a preformed hoop composed of a primary coil
6 of material having one of a rounded and a ball end said
7 primary coil being wound to form a secondary coil having
8 an outer diameter matching said nominal opening size, and
9 instilling memory retaining said nominal opening size
10 ~~properties into said preformed hoop to urge said material~~
11 ~~into~~ and including said double coil shape;

12 c. providing a cylindrical delivery means for
13 constraining said secondary coil into a linear
14 configuration;

15 d. inserting said hoop and said delivery means into an
16 artery at said target site ~~having an unsupported aperture~~
17 ~~size less than said nominal opening size~~; and

18 e. removing said delivery means whereby said hoop remains
19 in said artery to support said artery in an open position
20 wherein said secondary coil ~~outer diameter is larger than~~
21 ~~said target site unsupported aperture size and said~~

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3 ~~least a partial occlusion thereof~~, comprising the steps of:

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9 instilling memory retaining said nominal opening size
10 ~~properties into said preformed hoop to urge said material~~
11 ~~into~~ and including said double coil shape;

12 c. providing a cylindrical delivery means for
13 constraining said secondary coil into a linear
14 configuration;

15 d. inserting said hoop and said delivery means into an
16 artery at said target site ~~having an unsupported aperture~~
17 ~~size less than said nominal opening size~~; and

18 e. removing said delivery means whereby said hoop remains
19 in said artery to support said artery in an open position
20 wherein said secondary coil ~~outer diameter is larger than~~
21 ~~said target site unsupported aperture size and said~~

22 ~~secondary coil~~ reforms at and radially supports ~~is~~
23 ~~configured to urge~~ said target site aperture ~~to said~~
24 ~~nominal opening size.~~

1 6.(previously amended) The procedure of claim 5 wherein said
2 deliver means is a rod arranged to fit within said primary coil.

1 7.(previously amended) The procedure of claim 5 wherein said
2 delivery means is a delivery tube arranged to fit over said primary
3 coil.

1 8.(previously amended) The procedure of claim 5 wherein said step
2 of inserting comprises the step of inserting said delivery means
3 into a coronary artery.

9. (cancelled)

10.(cancelled)

11.(cancelled)

12.(cancelled)

13.(cancelled)

14.(cancelled)

1 15.(presently amended) The procedure of claim 5 wherein said step
2 of providing a preformed hoop includes the step of providing a
3 longitudinal an open first spacing space within and along
4 contiguous with sections of said preformed hoop having a second

5 coil longitudinal loop spacing less than said open first spacing
6 space, said open first spacing space being of sufficient size to
7 permit fluid flow into an artery side branch.

1 16.(presently amended) The procedure of claim 15, further
2 including the step of orienting said open first spacing space
3 within said artery to align said open first spacing space with said
4 artery side branch.

1 17.(cancelled)

1 18.(cancelled)

1 19.(previously presented) The procedure of claim 5, before the
2 step of inserting, further including the step of dilating said
3 target site.